IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Pa	tent Application of) MAIL STOP AF			
Hiroaki Sano et al. Application No.: 10/562,811 Filing Date: December 29, 2005 Title: TUBE CONNECTING APPARATUS) Group Art Unit: 1791			
) Examiner: CHRISTOPHER C.) CAILLOUET) Confirmation No.: 6482)			
	AMENDMENT/REPLY TRA))) RANSMITTAL LETTER			
Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450					
Sir:					
Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application.					
	A Petition for Extension of Time is enclosed.				
	Terminal Disclaimer(s) and the \$\sum \\$70 \$\sum \$\$140 fee per Disclaimer due under 37 C.F.R. \\$ 1.20(d) are enclosed.				
	Also enclosed is/are:				
	Small entity status is hereby claimed.				
	Applicant(s) requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the \$\square\$ \$ 405 \$\square\$ \$810 fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).				
	Applicant(s) requests that any previously unentered after final amendments <u>not</u> be entered. Continued examination is requested based on the enclosed documents identified above.				
	Applicant(s) previously submittedcontinued examination is requested.	on for whic	h		

Applicant(s) requests suspension of action by the Office until at least

in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i)

A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a)

, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE,

(1809/2809) is also enclosed.

is enclosed.

\boxtimes	No additional claim fee is required.
	An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:

AMENDED CLAIMS						
	No. of Claims	Highest No. of Claims Previously Paid For	Extra Claims	Rate	Additio	nal Fee
Total Claims	9	20	0	x \$ 52 (1202)	\$	0
Independent Claims	1	3	0	x \$ 220 (1201)		0
☐ If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$ 390 (1203)						0
Total Claim Amendment Fee						0
Small Entity Status claimed - subtract 50% of Total Claim Amendment Fee						0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL CLAIM FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT						0

	Charge	to Deposit Account No. 02-48	00 for the fee due.
	A check in the amount of	is enclosed	for the fee due.
	Charge	to credit card for the fee due.	Form PTO-2038 is attached.
\boxtimes	37 C F R 88 1 16 1 17 a	othorized to charge any approp and 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may b ot, to Deposit Account No. 02-4	be required by this paper, and
		Respectfully submitted,	
		RUCHANAN INGERSOLL & R	COONEY PC

By:

Date APRIL 30, 2009

Matthew L. Schneider Registration No. 32814

David R. Kemeny Registration No. 57241

P.O. Box 1404 Alexandria, VA 22313-1404 703 836 6620